## LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS

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## FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

**LS 7262 NOTE PREPARED:** Jan 13, 2013

BILL NUMBER: HB 1395 BILL AMENDED:

**SUBJECT:** Parole.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Mahan BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL IMPACT: State

DEDICATED FEDERAL

## **Summary of Legislation:** This bill has the following provisions:

- A. *Progressive Parole Incentives and Violation Sanctions* It requires the parole board to create policies and a schedule that prescribe minimum standards of progressive parole incentives and violation sanctions. It provides that a parolee may be subject to progressive parole sanction violation under certain circumstances.
- B. *Parole Revocation*—It provides that if a parolee commits a new: (1) Class A felony or Class B felony, the parole board shall revoke parole; and (2) Class C felony or Class D felony, the parole board may revoke parole.

Effective Date: July 1, 2013.

<u>Explanation of State Expenditures:</u> Parole Revocation – Under current statute, offenders who are released on parole and subsequently commit a new Class C or Class D felony will have their parole revoked. Under the bill, the parole board <u>may</u> revoke the parole of these offenders, potentially resulting in lower incarceration costs.

An estimated 1,224 offenders who were on parole were recommitted to Department of Correction (DOC) for a new crime in FY 2012. If these offenders would be permitted to remain on parole and not be recommitted to DOC, the savings for DOC would likely be between \$4.0 M and \$15.6 M, depending on how the savings are calculated.

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| Estimated Savings for Keeping Offenders on Parole<br>Rather than Revoking Parole for Committing a New Class C or D Felony |                      |   |                     |   |                |  |  |  |  |
|---|----------------------|---|---------------------|---|----------------|--|--|--|--|
|   | Savings per Offender |   | Number of Offenders |   | Annual Savings |  |  |  |  |
| Marginal Cost   | \$3,234              | x | 1,224               | = | \$4.0          |  |  |  |  |
| County Jails  | \$12,775             | X | 1,224               | = | \$15.6         |  |  |  |  |

The marginal cost assumes that offenders can be housed in existing facilities with no additional staff, so the only added cost would be for medical care, food, and clothing. These added costs are estimated as \$3,234 each year.

The cost to house a DOC offender in a county jail is \$35 per day, or \$12,775 annually.

<u>Background</u>—LSA examined the sentencing records of offenders who were committed to DOC facilities in FY 2012. LSA then identified offenders who were released on parole between FY 2008 and FY 2012 and recommitted to DOC for a new Class C or Class D felony. This table probably underestimates the number of offenders who might be affected because offenders who were released on parole before July 1, 2007, and committed to DOC with a new felony between July 1, 2011, and June 30, 2012, would not have been identified in the commitment data.

| Offenders on Parole Who were Committed to DOC<br>for New Class C or D Felony in FY 2012 |        |         |         |         |         |        |  |  |  |  |
|---|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--|--|--|--|
|   |        |         |         |         |         |        |  |  |  |  |
|   | For W  |         |         |         |         |        |  |  |  |  |
|   | Murder | Class A | Class B | Class C | Class D | Totals |  |  |  |  |
| Class C   |        |         | 34      | 109     | 200     | 343    |  |  |  |  |
| Class D   | 1      | 5       | 86      | 162     | 627     | 881    |  |  |  |  |
| Total   | 1      | 5       | 120     | 271     | 827     | 1,224  |  |  |  |  |

## **Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** 

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** 

State Agencies Affected: Department of Correction.

**Local Agencies Affected:** 

**Information Sources:** Department of Correction Offender Information System.

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